

## AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (original): A ribbon cartridge for use in a card printer comprising:

a cartridge housing including a supply spool enclosure, a take-up spool enclosure, a pair of ribbon guides, and a gap between the ribbon guides and the supply and take-up spool enclosures;

a supply spool contained in the supply spool enclosure;

a take-up spool contained in the take-up spool enclosure;  
and

a supply of ribbon that extends from the supply spool, over the ribbon guides and the gap, and to the take-up spool.

2. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 1, wherein the gap is defined by interior side walls of the spool and take-up enclosures, wherein the ribbon guides are formed by exposed top surfaces of the interior side walls.

3. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 1, wherein the ribbon guides are positioned above and between the supply and take-up spools.

4. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 1, wherein the gap is defined by interior side walls of the spool and take-up enclosures and is accessible from bottom and rear sides of the housing.

5. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 4, wherein the gap is further defined by a plate joining the interior side walls of the supply and take-up spool enclosures.

6. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 1, wherein the printhead gap has a width at the ribbon guides of approximately 0.75 inches.

7. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 1 including a card cleaner roller rotatably supported by the housing adjacent a top surface of the housing.

8. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 7, wherein the card cleaner roller is supported at a rear end adjacent a rear wall of the housing and at a front end adjacent a front wall of the housing.

9. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 7, wherein the card cleaner roller includes a debris-collecting exterior surface.

10. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 7, wherein the card cleaner roller is removable.

11. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 1, wherein the supply and take-up spool enclosures each include a rear opening for receiving a core of each of the supply and take-up spools, respectively.

12. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 1, including a rotation inhibitor engaging the supply spool and providing resistance to rotation of the supply spool.

13. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 12, wherein the rotation inhibitor includes a tab member extending from the housing.

14. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 1 including a rotation inhibitor engaging the take-up spool and providing resistance to rotation of the take-up spool.

15. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 14, wherein the rotation inhibitor includes a tab member extending from the housing.

16. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 1, wherein the supply spool enclosure includes an opening through which the ribbon extends.

17. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 1, wherein the take-up spool enclosure includes an opening through which the ribbon extends.

18. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 17, wherein the housing includes a finger hold.

19. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 1, wherein the supply and take-up spool enclosures have different exterior shapes.

20. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 1 including a supply circuit having a memory containing supply information relating to the ribbon cartridge.

21. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 20, wherein the supply circuit is mounted to the supply spool or the take-up spool.

22. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 20, wherein the supply information includes a lot code, a supplier code, a ribbon type, a security code, a printer configuration setting, a number of prints completed, or a number of prints remaining.

23. (original): The ribbon cartridge of claim 20, wherein the memory of the supply circuit includes a memory bank, the memory bank having a limit as to a number of times data can be written thereto.

~~28-24.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim 20, wherein:

one of the supply and take-up spools includes a core and a

ribbon guide that extends substantially perpendicularly from the core; and  
the supply circuit is mounted to the ribbon guide and includes an opening through which the core extends.

~~29-25.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim 21, wherein the supply circuit is configured to break upon removal from the ribbon cartridge.

~~30-26.~~ (currently amended): A ribbon cartridge for use in a card printer comprising:  
a cartridge housing including front and rear walls; and  
a cleaner roller rotatably supported between the front and rear walls.

~~31-27.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~30~~26, wherein the cleaner roller includes a debris-collecting surface.

~~32-28.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~30~~26, wherein the cleaner roller is mounted adjacent a top side of the housing.

~~33-29.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~30~~26, wherein the cleaner roller includes front and rear ends that are each received in an aperture of the respective front and rear wall of the housing.

~~34-30.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~33~~29, wherein the apertures are shaped to allow the cleaner roller to move between a receiving position and a cleaning position.

~~35-31.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~30~~26, wherein:  
the housing includes a spool enclosure and a cover extending over an opening of the spool enclosure; and  
the cleaner roller is positioned above the cover.

36-32. (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim 3026, wherein:

the housing includes supply and take-up spool enclosures each having an interior side wall separated from each other by a gap, and a plate connecting the interior side walls;

a supply spool contained in the supply enclosure;

a take-up spool contained in the take-up spool enclosure; and print ribbon having a first end wound on supply spool, a second end wound on the take-up spool, and a middle portion extending between the supply and take-up spools and over the interior side walls.

37-33. (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim 3632, wherein the interior side walls include ribbon guide members positioned above and between the supply and take-up spools, the print ribbon supported on the ribbon guide members.

38-34. (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim 36-32 including a rotation inhibitor engaging the supply or take-up spool, the rotation inhibitor providing resistance to rotation of the spool.

39-35. (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim 3834, wherein the rotation inhibitor includes a tab member extending from the housing.

40-36. (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim 3026, wherein:

the housing includes a spool enclosure that includes the front and rear walls, an interior side wall, a bottom, and an exterior side wall, the front and rear walls each including an opening; and

a spool including a core having a front portion extending through the opening in the front wall and a rear

portion extending through the opening in the rear wall.

41-37. (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~40~~36, wherein the spool enclosure includes a core support wall extending from the bottom of the spool enclosure, the core support wall positioned between the front and rear walls.

42-38. (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~40-36~~ including a rotation inhibitor engaging the core of the spool, the rotation inhibitor providing resistance to rotation of the spool.

43-39. (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~42~~38, wherein the rotation inhibitor includes a tab member extending from the spool enclosure.

44-40. (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~30~~26, wherein the housing includes a finger grab.

45-41. (currently amended): A ribbon cartridge for use in a card printer comprising:

- a housing including a spool enclosure having an interior side wall, a bottom, an exterior side wall, and front and rear walls, the front and rear walls each including an opening; and

- a spool including a core having a front portion extending through the opening in the front wall of the spool enclosure and a rear portion extending through the opening in the rear wall.

46-42. (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~45~~41, wherein the spool enclosure includes a core support wall extending from the bottom of the spool enclosure, the core support wall positioned between the front and rear walls.

47-43. (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~45-41~~ including a rotation inhibitor engaging the core of the spool, the

rotation inhibitor providing resistance to rotation of the spool.

~~48-44.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~47~~43, wherein the rotation inhibitor includes a tab member extending from the spool enclosure.

~~49-45.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~45-41~~ including a cleaner roller rotatably supported between the front and rear walls.

~~50-46.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~49~~45, wherein the ~~clearer~~cleaner roller includes a debris-collecting surface.

~~51-47.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~49~~45, wherein the cleaner roller is mounted adjacent a top side of the housing.

~~52-48.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~49~~45, wherein the cleaner roller includes front and rear ends that are each received in an aperture of the respective front and rear wall of the housing.

~~53-49.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~52~~48, wherein the apertures are shaped to allow the cleaner roller to move between a receiving position and a cleaning position.

~~54-50.~~ (currently amended): The ribbon cartridge of claim ~~49~~45, wherein:

the housing includes a cover extending over an opening of the  
spool enclosure; and  
the cleaner roller is positioned above the cover.